Harassment of tribals in Visakhapatnam

1526. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of families evicted in different States and Union Territories for providing land in setting up development schemes during the years 2001 to 2003;

(b) whether all of them have got compensation and rehabilitation;

(c) whether a good section of tribal people in Visakhapatnam of Andhra Pradesh are being prescribed by the interested parties to spare their land for mining; and

(d) the extent of resistance by the people and the role of the Central Government as well as the State Government of Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) to (d) As per Government of India (Allocation of Business Rules, 1961), Ministry of Mines is responsible for survey and exploration of all minerals, other than Natural Gas, Petroleum and Atomic Minerals, for mining and metallurgy of Non-ferrous metals like Aluminium, Copper, Zinc, Lead, Gold, Nickel etc. and for administration of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Acts, 1957 in respect of all mines and minerals other than Coal, Natural Gas and Petroleum. The acquisition of land and other matters connected thereto for the different types of development schemes do not come under the purview of the subjects allotted to Ministry of Mines.

So far as the Public Sector Undertakings under the administrative control of Minstry of Mines are concerned no land has been acquired by them during the years 2001-2003.

Technology to extract mines from ocean floor

1527. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Ocean Development has developed cost effective technology to extract mines from ocean floor;

(b) if so, details thereof;